

Message Text

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ACTION ORM-02

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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2005

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMCONSUL UDORN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 22714

FOR: D/HA/ORM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, LA

SUBJECT: BIO CAT III LAO REFUGEE THONGDAM SIMMAVONG, FAMILY OF 4

REF: A. STATE 178281 B. BANGKOK 22713

1. THONGDAM SIMMALAVONG (M)

A. BUDDHIST

B. 5 FEB. 1933, XIENG KHOUANG, LAOS

C. 1952 - COMPETED LYCEE

1952-1956 - INSTITUT DE ETUDES JURIDIQUES, POLITIZUES,
ECONOMIQUES IN PHNOM PENH

1959-1960 - LOCAL GOVERNMENT TRAINING IN ENGLAND

FEB.-JULY 1962 - FOREIGN SERVICE TRAINING IN AUSTRALIA

D. 1957-1962 - LAO GOVERNMENT, MINISTRY OF ECONOMY, DIRECTION
DU COMMERCE, HEAD OF PRICE CONTROL SECTION ON AMERICAN AID.

1962-1964 - MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

1964-1974 - VIENTIANE, PRIVATE SECRETARY TO THE SECRETARY TO
THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF MFA; DIVISION OF PROTOCOL AND
CEREMONIES, MFA.

APRIL 1974-APRIL 1975- FIRST SECRETARY AND CHARGE D'AFFAIRE,
LAO EMBASSY, PHNOM PENH

JULY 1975-JULY 1976 - FIRST SECRETARY LAO EMBASSY, NEW DELHI

E. LAO, FRENCH, ENGLISH

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F. NONE

G. MRS. CAROL COMPTON, 4116 F. WOODLAKE PLACE, RALEIGH, N.C. 27906

2. PINHKHAM SIMMALAVONG AKA PINHKHAM UTIAVAIN (F) (WIFE)

A. BUDDHIST

B. SEPTEMBER 25, 1935, LAOS

C. 1952 - GRADUATE LAO HIGH SCHOOL

1957-1959 - HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAT FROM WASHINGTON D.C. PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARD, PARTICIPANT UNDER ICA TECH. ASSISTANCE IN WORK-SHOP ON WRITING TEXTBOOKS FOR CHILDREN, ATTENDED THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY LANGUAGE THE D.C. TEACHERS COLLEGE, THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE INSTITUTE OF THE UNIV. OF MICHIGAN, AND SEMINARS ON ELEMENTARY EDUCATION AT DENVER UNIV.

1960-1963 - UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, B.A. IN ENGLISH

1971-1972 - UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, M.A. IN EDUCATION

D. 1952-1957 - PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHER

1959-1960 3 ENGLISH TEACHER AT ECOLE NORMALE (TEACHER TRAINING SCHOOL), VIENTIANE

1963-1965 - ENGLISH TEACHER AND COUNTERPART OF AID FUNDED MICHIGAN TEAM SETTING UP AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROGRAM AT THE NATIONAL EDUCATION CENTER

1965-1967 - UNEMPLOYED, IN BANGKOK WITH HUSBAND

1967-1975 - DIRECTOR OF STUDIES OF THE ENGLISH SECTION, ECOLE NORMALE DE VIENTIANE, ENDING UP AS INSPECTOR GENERAL OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING IN LAOS.

SEPT. 1975 - JOINED HUSBAND IN NEW DELHI

NOTE: FROM 1967 TO 1975 WAS REPRESENTATIVE OF MINISTRY OF EDUCATION ON THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE, OR GOVERNING BOARD, OF SEAMEO (SOUTH-EAST ASIAN MINISTRY OF EDUCATION ORGANIZATION) REGIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE CENTER IN SINGAPORE. ATTENDED NUMEROUS SEMINARS, WORK-SHOPS, CONFERENCES AND SERVED AS CONSULTANT.

E. LAO, FRENCH, ENGLISH

F. NONE

G. SAHE AS 1G

3. VONG (M) (SON)

A. BUDDHIST

B. 9 MAY 1958, XIENG KHOUANG, LAOS

C. 1973-1975 - ECOLE NORMALE DE VIENTIANE, TEACHER TRAINING SCHOOL

1975-1976 - ALLIANCE FRANCAISE, NEW DELHI

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D. STUDENT

E. LAO, FRENCH

F. NONE

G. SAME AS 1G

4. SOURINA (V) (DAUGHTER)

A. BUDDHIST

B. 4 NOV. 1967, BANGKOK

C. 1970-1975 - AMERICAN SCHOOL OF VIENTIANE, PRE AND PRIMARY
1975-1976 - BRITISH SCHOOL, NEW DELHI

5. FAMILY ARRIVED BANGKOK VIA COMMERCIAL AIR FROM INDIA ON 10 AUG. 1976. THEY HAVE BEEN PLANNING TO LEAVE PDRL GOVERNMENT FOR SOME TIME AND HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH PERSONAL FRIEND, WHO THEY KNEW IN LAOS, PARA 1G AGOVE, TO ARRANGE SPONSORSHIP. AS A NORMAL FOREIGN TOUR FOR A MAN IN THONGDAM'S POSITION IS 3 YEARS, AND SINCE THEY WERE NOT IN LAOS, THEY HAD NOT FELT TOO PRESSED AS YET FOR TIME. RECENTLY, HOWEVER, HE RECEIVED RECALL ORDERS TO VIENTIANE "FOR A NEW AND BETTER ASSIGNMENT". HE IS SOMEWHAT DUBIOUS OF HIS NEW, UNANNOUNCED, POSITION AND SUSPECTS THAT HE IS SLATED FOR "SEMINAR"; PERHAPS A RATHER STRICTER SEMINAR THAN NORMAL IN VIEW OF HIS WIFE'S LONG, AND CLOSE ASSOCIATIONS WITH AMERICAN BOTH IN WORK AND EDUCATION. THONGDAM POINTED OUT THAT EVEN HIS ALMOST 9 YEAR OLD DAUGHTER HAS SPENT OVER HALF HER LIFE IN AN AMERICAN EDUCATION INSTITUTION. THEY HAVE NOT CHECKED IN WITH THE LAO EMBASSY IN BANGKOK AND THEY DO NOT INTEND TO DO SO. THEY HAVE ALSO NOT TOLD THE THAI GOVERNMENT OF THEIR DECISION NOT TO RETURN TO LAOS. A, PERHAPS, LEGITIMATE CONCERN THEY HAVE IS THAT, SINCE THE LAO EMBASSY IN INDIA SENT A DEPARTURE CABLE WITH ITINERARY, THEY ARE ALREADY OVERDUE IN VIENTIANE AND THE LAO GOVERNMENT MAY START LOOKING FOR THEM IN THAILAND AND, IF FOUND, MAKE A REQUEST FOR THEIR RETURN.

6. REQUEST ORM AND INS/CO GRANT 4 RECOUP EPP SLOTS FOR THIS CAT III FAMILY UNDER FOURTH PRIORITY, REF. A.

7# FOR SECSTATE, DECLASSIFY UPON RECEIPT.
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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To: STATE
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